

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /100 W

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R 141055Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9099

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USEC BRUSSELS 3130

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 5837

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY, AU

SUBJECT: GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO AUSTRIA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GREEK FONMIN BITSIOS WHO VISITED AUSTRIA  
JULY 4-7 HAS TOLD AUSTRIANS THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY  
AND GREECE ARE LIKELY TO DETERIORATE; PROSPECTS FOR MOVEMENT  
ON CYPRUS PROBLEM ARE POOR AND GREEKS WILL USE FORCE TO  
PREVENT TURKISH SEISMIC STUDIES IN DISPUTED AEGEAN WATERS.

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AUSTRIANS EXPRESSED CONFERN ABOUT DECLINING AUSTRIAN

EXPORTS TO GREECE AND RECEIVED PROMISE THAT GOG WOULD FULFILL OBLIGATIONS OF FORMER GREEK MILITARY GOVERNMENT VIS-A-VIS AUSTRIAN-BACKED STEYR-HELLAS PLANT, BUT AUSTRIA COULD NOT MEET FULL GREEK REQUEST FOR INCREASES TRUCK TRAFFIC THROUGH AUSTRIA. CHANCELLOR KRESIKY INVITED GREEK PRESIDENT TO VISIT AUSTRIA. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO MFA DIRECTOR SOUTHEASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, MINISTER TARTER, OFFICIAL VISIT OF GREEK FONMIN BITSIOS TO AUSTRIA JULY 4-7 PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR GREEK SIDE OF PROBLEMS AFFECTING GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. ON FORMER, ONLY OPTIMISTIC NOTE CONCERNED BALKAN CONFERENCE AND RESULTANT POTENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION INVOLVING TURKEY AND GREECE ALONG WITH OTHER BALKAN STATES.

3. CYPRUS. BITSIOS SAID IT WAS TURK CYPRIOTS WHO MUST STILL ANSWER CLERIDES' PROPOSAL; APPARENTLY, DENKTASH WAS LESS FLEXIBLE THAN TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER, DENKTASH BEING PREPARED FOR FURTHER CONVERSATIONS ONLY IF TURKISH CYPRIOT DEMANDS FOR BIZONAL FEDERATION WITH EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS AND ONLY MINOR CHANGES IN TERRITORIAL SITUATION ARE ACCEPTED AS BASIS FOR TALKS. BITSIOS SAID GREEKS COULD UNDERSTAND FIRST TURKISH INTERVENTION ON CYPRUS BUT NOT SECOND; TURKISH SEIZURE OF 40 PERCENT OF ISLAND, ITS RICHEST AND MOST FERTILE PART, WAS "CONDEMNABLE". WITHOUT GIVE ON PART OF TURK SIDE, BITSIOS CONCLUDED, PROBLEM WAS "ENTRE LES MOINS DE M. WALDHEIM". (TARTER ADDED COMMENT THAT WALDHEIM'S FORTHCOMING VISITS TO ANKARA AND ATHENS HAD LITTLE PROSPECT OF SUCCESS SINCE THERE COULD BE NO FURTHER INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS UNDER UNSYG AUSPICES WITHOUT ASSURANCES OF SOME PROGRESS AND THIS SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE IN ABSENCE OF REPLACEMENT FOR CLERIDES AS INTERLOCUTOR FOR GREEK CYPRIOTS).

4. AEGEAN QUESTION. BITSIOS EXPRESSED REGRET TURKEY DID NOT ACCEPT GREEK PROPOSAL THAT DIFFERENCES OVER RESOURCES UNDER AEGEAN BE RESOLVED BY HAGUE COURT. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SAID DIFFERENCES WERE RESOLVABLE ONLY IF NEITHER PARTY WAS PRESENTED WITH "FAIT ACCOMPLI". SEISMIC SURVEY BY TURKS WOULD BE SUCH FACT AND GREECE INTENDED TO USE FORCE TO PREVENT TURKISH SURVEY IN DISPUTED WATERS.

5. BALKAN COOPERATION. SINGLE BRIGHT SPOT IN GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS ACCORDING TO BITSIOS WAS SUCCESS OF BALKAN CONFERENCE, IN WHICH TURKS JOINED AT ATHENS,

AND POSSIBILITY THAT TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS VITAL TO WHOLE BALKAN AREA MIGHT EVENTUALLY LEAD TO BETTER RELATIONS. IN ANY CASE, BITSIOS THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT GREEKS AND TURKS WERE STILL TALKING TO EACH OTHER EVEN IF, ON BASIS OF HIS ASSESSMENTS OF CYPRUS AND AEGEAN PROBLEMS, GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS SEEMED CERTAIN TO DETERIORATE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

6. ECONOMIC ISSUES. TARTER SAID AUSTRIANS VOICED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER DECLINING EXPORTS TO GREECE- ABOUT 25 PERCENT IN FIRST QUARTER 1976- AS GREEKS REORIENTED ECONOMY TOWARD EC IN ANTICIPATION OF GREEK MEMBERSHIP, AND EXPRESSED HOPE TRADE WOULD NOT SUFFER FURTHER. AUSTRIANS ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT FAILURE OF GREEK GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE PROMISED CONDITIONS AND SUPPORT FOR AUSTRIAN-BACKED STEYR-HELLAS TRUCK/TRACTOR PLANT IN GREECE AND RECEIVED PROMISE THAT GREEKS WOULD FULFILL OBLIGATIONS TO STEYR-HELLAS MADE BY GREECE'S FORMER MILITARY REGIME. TARTER SAID GREEKS ASKED FOR MORE LICENSES FOR GREEK TRUCKS TO TRANSIT AUSTRIA, PRIMARILY WITH PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE ENROUTE TO NORTHERN EUROPE. AUSTRIANS HOWEVER, WANT TO REDUCE CROWDING ON AUSTRIAN HIGHWAYS, AVOID POLLUTION OF ENVIRONMENT, AND FOSTER GREATER USE OF AUSTRIAN RAILROADS FOR TRANSIT TRAFFIC TO AND FROM BALKANS. AUSTRIANS THEREFORE WERE UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE GREEKS FULLY BUT EXPRESSED READINESS TO WORK WITH GREEKS AND OTHERS TO IMPROVE RAIL TRAFFIC THROUGH BALKANS, WHICH IS NOW SUBJECT TO SERIOUS DELAYS AND LOSSES. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, GR, TU, CY, AU, (BITSIOS, DIMITRIOS)  
**To:** STATE  
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